

I Urban District Council of Exmouth



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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1964

TOWN HALL,
EXMOUTH.

I N D E X.

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EXMOUTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Exmouth.

July, 1965.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to present to you my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1964, which includes sections kindly compiled by the Senior Public Health Inspector, the Engineer and Surveyor and the Housing Officer.

From a study of the statistical figures, it will be noted that the estimated population has increased during the year by 470, to 20,810, and the number of inhabited dwellings by 212, to 7,755.

The number of live births during the year was 339 an increase of 35 over 1963 and the live birth rate of 16.3 is the highest since 1946 when the rate reached 18.6. The standardised live birth rate of 20.8 is above that for England and Wales, 18.4.

There was a slight increase in the number of deaths during 1964, when 397 persons died. This represents a standardised rate of 11.8 and is slightly higher than that for England and Wales as a whole, 11.3.

The Infant Mortality rate for 1964 was only 11.8 which is very much below that for England and Wales, 20.0. All the babies who died suffered from congenital malformations.

I am pleased to report that there were no maternal deaths.

Regarding infectious diseases, the incidence was very low only 55 being notified.

It may be stated that the environmental health of the district has been very satisfactory.

In conclusion I would like to thank all members of the Council and the staff for their continued interest and co-operation which they have extended to me during the past year.

I have the honour to be
Your Obedient Servant,

L.G. ANDERSON.

Medical Officer of Health.

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3. GENERAL INFORMATION.

Area (in acres) 5,000
 Standard Population Estimate 1951 1,000
 (as estimated by the Registrar General)
 Number of inhabited buildings (Mid-June, 1951) 760
 Residential value as at that date £15,000.
 Estimated product of a gross rate, 1950-51, £1,000.

4. VITAL STATISTICS.(a) Births

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	119	151	270
Illegitimate	19	17	36
S T A F F .			

Deaths	27	37
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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

L. G. Anderson, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

Mr. D. R. Redgwell, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

Mr. B. J. Stowell, M.A.P.H.I.

CLERK TO MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS:

Miss J. E. Strudwick.

(b) Deaths

Number of deaths 52
 Registered birth rate per 1,000 annual average population 20
 Standardized death rate per 1,000 annual average population 20
 Deaths under one year old per 1,000 registered births 10
 Deaths from external causes 10

1. STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	5,295
Resident Population Mid-Year 1964 (as estimated by the Registrar General)	20,810
Number of inhabited dwellings (31st March, 1964)	7,755
Rateable value as at 31st March 1964.	£935,267
Estimated product of a penny rate, 1964-65.	£3,815

2. VITAL STATISTICS.

(a) Live Births

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	149	153	302
Illegitimate	18	19	37
Total	167	172	339

Live birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	16.3
Standardised live birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	20.8
Live birth rate per 1,000 estimated civilian population England & Wales	18.4

(b) Still Births

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	3	1	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	3	1	4

Still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births	11.8
Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births England & Wales	16.3

(c) Deaths

	Males	Females	Total
Number of deaths =	180	217	397
Corrected death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population			19.1
Standardised death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population			11.8
Death rate per 1,000 civilian population England and Wales			11.3
Deaths from maternal causes.			nil.

(d) Infant Mortality (Deaths of infants under 1 year of age).

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	-	1	1
Total	1	3	4

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births 11.8
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 births England and Wales 20.0

3. LIVE BIRTH RATE. (Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population).

During 1964, 167 males and 172 females, total 39 babies were born. As compared with 1963 the total births increased by 35. The standardised rate per 1,000 estimated resident population was 20.8 which is slightly higher than the rate for England and Wales as a whole (18.4).

The standardised live birth rate during the last 10 years was as follows :-

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
Exmouth	12.3	13.3	12.9	14.1	13.6	15.0	14.2	15.2	14.9	16.3
Standardised	14.7	16.0	15.5	16.9	14.3	18.0	15.5	16.6	19.1	19.1
England & Wales	15.0	15.7	16.1	16.4	16.5	17.1	17.4	18.0	18.2	18.4

4. ILLEGITIMATE BIRTH RATE (Rate per 1,000 live births).

Of the 339 children born during 1964, 37 were illegitimate. The rate per 1,000 live births was 109.1 compared with 23 illegitimate births representing an illegitimate birth rate of 75.6 in 1963.

The illegitimate birth rates during the last 10 years are as follows :-

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
Exmouth	18.5	42.0	25.8	22.9	63.2	60.9	65.0	69.0	75.6	109.1

5. **STILL BIRTHS.** (Rate per 1,000 live and still births).

Four still births occurred during 1964 as compared with two in the previous year and the still birth rate of 11.8 was lower than the rate for England and Wales as a whole. The sub-joined table shows the still birth rate for the last ten years :-

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
Exmouth	27.8	20.5	33.2	15.2	19.3	27.9	3.6	13.0	6.6	11.8
England & Wales	23.1	23.0	22.4	21.6	20.7	19.7	18.7	18.1	17.3	16.3

6. **DEATHS.**

During 1964, 397 persons normally resident in the urban district died (180 males and 217 females) which represents a corrected death rate of 19.1 but when allowances for age and sex distribution have been made, represents a "standardised" death rate of 11.8. This is slightly higher than the rate for England and Wales, viz. 11.3. The following table shows the corrected and "standardised" death rates for Exmouth for the last ten years :-

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
Corrected	16.5	17.4	15.3	18.5	17.3	19.7	17.3	17.5	21.3	19.1
Standardised	9.9	11.0	9.8	11.5	10.9	12.6	12.2	12.6	13.5	11.8
England & Wales	11.7	11.7	11.5	11.7	11.6	11.5	12.0	11.9	12.5	11.3

Age at death

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
Males	67.6	68.7	70.7	70.1	68.1	71.4	71.0	70.1	73.1	72.2
Females	75.0	76.0	76.5	77.1	72.6	75.3	73.6	76.4	76.1	75.8
Both Sexes	73.3	72.9	74.3	74.5	70.5	73.3	72.6	73.4	74.8	74.2
England M	67.6	67.5	67.7	67.7	67.8	68.0	68.1	68.1	68.0	-
& Wales F	73.1	72.6	73.3	73.2	73.5	73.7	73.9	74.0	73.9	-

Causes of Death

The following table shown the causes of death (data supplied by the Registrar General)

	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis Respiratory	1	-	1
Other forms	1	-	1
Syphilitic Disease	1	-	1
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	-	1	1
Cancer			
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	2	7
Malignant neoplasm, lung & bronchus	10	3	13
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	7	7
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	3	3
Other Malignant & Lymphatic neoplasms.	23	22	45
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	2	1	3
Diabetes	1	2	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	24	48	72
Coronary disease, angina	31	25	56
Hypertension with heart disease	4	7	11
Other heart diseases	18	30	48
Other Circulatory diseases	9	6	15
Pneumonia	9	10	19
Bronchitis	18	5	23
Other diseases of Respiratory system	2	6	8
Ulcer of stomach & duodenum	3	1	4
Gastritis, Enteritis & diarrhoea	-	2	2
Nephritis & Nephrosis	1	-	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	1	2	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	9	23	32
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
All other accidents	5	6	11
Suicide	1	4	5
Homicide	-	1	1
All causes	180	217	397

The most prevalent cause of death during 1964 was again that of heart disease, 115 cases (29.1% total deaths). Cancer was the cause of 75 deaths (19.1% total deaths), and intracranial vascular lesions such as cerebral haemorrhage and thrombosis were responsible for 72 deaths (18.1% total deaths).

Deaths due to accidents.

1. Male age 46	Acute pulmonary oedema. Inhalation of smoke. Overdose of Barbiturate and Alcohol. Death due to misadventure.
2. Male age 62	Subdural Haemorrhage. Fracture of Skull. Death due to misadventure.
3. Male age 23	Carbon monoxide poisoning. Inhalation of exhaust fumes from a car. Death due to misadventure.
4. Male age 55	Drowning. Acute heart failure. Death due to misadventure.
5. Male age 28	Drowning in the sea. Death due to misadventure.
6. Female age 83	Fracture of right hip. Death due to misadventure.
7. Female age 92	Fracture of neck of right femur. Death due to misadventure.
8. Female age 88	Fracture of left femur. Death due to misadventure.
9. Female age 77	Fracture of left femur Death due to misadventure.
10. Female age 73	Fracture of neck of right femur. Death due to misadventure.
11. Female age 86	Fracture of right femur. Death due to misadventure.

Deaths due to Suicide.

1. Male age 68	Poisoning by Sodium Amytal. Took his own life while the balance of his mind was disturbed.
2. Female age 77	Carbon Monoxide Poisoning. Took her own life.
3. Female age 39	Barbiturate Poisoning. Took her own life while the balance of her mind was disturbed.
4. Female age 56	Acute barbiturate poisoning. Took her own life while the balance of her mind was disturbed.
5. Female age 51	Carbon monoxide poisoning with excess of barbiturate. Took her own life while the balance of her mind was disturbed.

Deaths due to Homocide.

1. Female age 69. Strangulation of ligature.

The following table shows the incidence of death at various age groups (from returns supplied by the local registrar of Births and Deaths).

	Males	Females	Total	Percentage.
Under 1 year	1	3	4	1.08
1 & under 5	-	1	1	.25
5+	1	-	1	.25
15+	1	1	2	.50
25+	4	-	4	1.08
35+	3	3	6	1.51
45+	8	8	16	4.35
55+	32	18	50	12.50
65+	56	54	110	27.70
75 and over	74	129	203	51.10
Total	180	217	397	

7. INFANT MORTALITY.

The infant mortality rate represents the number of deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births registered.

During 1964, 4 infants, 3 females and one male under the age of one year died. This represents an infant mortality rate of 11.8 which is considerably lower than that for England and Wales (20.0) In all cases death was associated with Congenital Malformations.

The following table gives the infant mortality rate of previous years :-

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
No.of deaths under 1 year	6	3	5	6	11	10	7	5
Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births	24.6	14.8	18.9	26.0	45.5	48.8	32.4	21.0
	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
No.of deaths under 1 year	2	4	12	3	4	5	4	4
Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births	8.6	15.5	47.4	10.8	14.4	16.4	13.1	11.8

The causes of death of the 4 infants were as follows :-

Sex	Age	Cause of Death
M	6 hours	Congenital Malformations
H	53 minutes	Congenital Malformations
F	3 hours	Congenital Malformations
F	1 month	Congenital Malformations

8. CANCER.

Deaths from Cancer increased from 59 in 1963 to 75 in 1964, and in relation to the total number of deaths, the rate per cent increased from 15.9 in 1963 to 19.1 this year.

The parts of the body effected are given in the following table:-

Site	Male	Female	Total
Stomach	5	2	7
Lungs and Bronchus	10	3	13
Breast	-	7	7
Uterus	-	3	3
All other sites	23	22	45
Total	38	37	75

The following table shows the incidence of Lung Cancer compared with other forms of Cancer for the last 13 years :-

	Cancer of the Lung		All other sites	Total
	Male	Female		
1952	2	2	44	48
1953	6	-	33	39
1954	2	2	51	55
1955	7	1	38	46
1956	6	1	35	42
1957	5	2	45	52
1958	10	1	48	59
1959	4	2	44	50
1960	9	2	50	61
1961	9	1	47	57
1962	11	5	51	67
1963	7	2	50	59
1964	10	3	62	75

The incidence of deaths from Cancer during the last 10 years is as follows :-

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
No of cases	46	42	52	59	50	61	57	67	59	75
Percentage total No of deaths	15.8	13.5	18.8	17.5	15.6	16.7	16.9	17.4	15.9	19.1
Rate per 1,000 resident population	2.62	2.34	2.88	3.24	2.70	3.30	2.90	3.38	2.85	3.60

9.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During 1964, 55 cases of notifiable infectious diseases were notified, which is 564 less than in the previous year.

a. Measles

There were 32 cases of Measles in 1964 and these were all of a mild nature.

The seasonal incidence of Measles in Exmouth was as follows :-

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
7	16	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	1	4
23			2				2			5	

b. Tabular Statement of Infectious Diseases.

The incidence during 1964 of the various infectious diseases is tabulated herewith.

	Cases notified	Cases admitted to hospital
Measles	32	-
Whooping Cough	6	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-
Scarlet Fever	4	-
Pneumonia	4	-
Sonne Dysentery	2	-
Erysipelas	4	-
Poliomyelitis	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	-
Gastro Enteritis	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-
Total	55	-

The following table shows the incidence of notifiable infectious diseases during the last 10 years :-

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
Measles	29	85	290	246	36	154	132	34	561	32
Whooping Cough	15	66	13	35	30	3	5	1	5	6
Scarlet Fever	12	4	3	1	29	7	2	2	-	4
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	-	-	1	-	1	1	2	-	3
Dysentery	2	-	1	-	-	3	-	372	43	2
Pneumonia	9	12	2	12	3	-	5	-	9	4
Erysipelas	1	2	1	6	1	4	3	2	1	4
Acute Polio-myelitis	2	-	29	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-

The following table shows the incidence of notifiable infectious diseases grouped according to age:-

	Under 1 year	1+	2+	3+	4+	5+	10+	15+	25+	35+	45+	55+	65+	Total
Measles	2	-	2	1	1	12	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	32
Whooping Cough	-	-	2	-	1	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	6
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	4
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	5
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3

10. TUBERCULOSIS.

The incidence of new cases of Tuberculosis brought to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health during the period 1955-1964:-

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	
Pulmonary	M	5	5	3	4	5	1	5	2	1	1
	F	6	7	4	2	-	1	3	2	-	-
Non Pulmonary	M	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	
	F	4	1	1	2	-	2	-	-	1	-
Total		17	14	8	9	5	4	8	4	2	2

Table showing incidence of all forms of Tuberculosis. (Rates per 1,000 estimated resident population).

YEAR	CASES NOTIFIED (Per 1,000 resident population)	DEATH RATE
1938	0.98	0.39
1952	0.93	0.29
1953	0.93	0.058
1954	0.63	0.057
1955	0.97	0.11
1956	0.78	-
1957	0.44	0.11
1958	0.49	0.05
1959	0.27	-
1960	0.22	0.032
1961	0.41	0.051
1962	0.20	0.05
1963	0.10	-
1964	0.09	-

11. NATIONAL HEALTH FACILITIES.

The Health services provided by the Local Health Authority (Devon County Council) under Part II and III of the Act applicable to your district are briefly set out herewith :-

PART II

a. Hospital Facilities.

i. General.

The urban district is well served by the Exmouth Hospital, Claremont Grove, Exmouth ('phone Exmouth 4381) where there is accommodation for :-

Male	13 beds
Female	15 beds
Children	5 beds
Private Wards	8 beds
General Wards	4 beds

In addition to the Exmouth Hospital, use is made of :-

1. Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital, Southernhay East. (Tel 72261) - 305 beds.
2. Princess Elizabeth Orthopaedic Hospital, Burrell Bore, Exeter. Tel. 54217. 116 beds.
3. West of England Eye Infirmary, Magdalen Street, Exeter Tel. 73183. 62 beds including 2 private and 2 isolation beds.
4. Angela Home, Tipton St. John. 35 beds (Exeter City Hospital).

The Plastic Surgery Centre for Devon is held at the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital on the second Thursday in every month from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Mr. Fitz-Gibbons and Mr. Bodenham of the South West Regional Hospital Board attend.

ii. Maternity.

1. Redhills Hospital, St. Thomas, Exeter - 10 beds.
2. Mowbray House, Exeter - 24 beds.
3. Exeter City Hospital - 265 beds altogether, which includes 41 maternity beds and 15 cots for premature babies.

iii Isolation.

Cases of infectious diseases are admitted to the Exeter City Isolation Hospital, Whipton, ('Phone Exeter 67158) as in previous years.

I would like to record my sincere appreciation for the ready help and co-operation given at all times by Dr. Boyd, the Resident Physician and Staff of the hospital.

iv. Smallpox

Should your Medical Officer of Health require the services of a consultant, arrangements have been made to call upon :-

1. East Devon. Dr. E.J.G. Wallace, Health Centre, Westham Road, WEYMOUTH, Dorset.

Tel. No. 1645 and 16.
Home - Weymouth 1513.

2. Cornwall and Devon to the River Exe.

Dr. W.H. St. John-Brooke, West Cornwall Hospital.
PENZANCE, Cornwall.

Tel. No. 2382.
Home, Cockwells 356.

As the Smallpox Hospital at Upton Pyne has closed any cases of Smallpox are now sent to the hospital at Liskeard.

b. Laboratory Facilities.

Bacteriological and Serological examinations are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Exeter - their address being: Bradninch Place, Gandy Street, Exeter (Tel: 54959). Under the direction of Dr. B. Moore whose ready co-operation and help I wish to acknowledge.

c. Venereal Disease.

Under the present scheme free advice and treatment is available to all persons at the following centre :-

<u>Exeter.</u>	Males	Females
Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital	Mon. 7 - 8 p.m. Fri. 2 - 3 p.m.	Mon. 6 - 7 p.m. Fri. 3 - 4 p.m.

d. Ambulance Facilities.

Three ambulances are maintained at the Ambulance Station Bastein Hall, Elm Grove, Tel. No. 2857. All of which are equipped with radio telephone communication systems.

In the district served the ambulances have carried 3,491 patients and have attended 130 street accidents and 17 home accidents. The total mileage covered during the year was 38,984 miles. 763 cases were treated at the Beach First Aid Post.

PART III.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND CHILDREN.

There are three Health Visitors assigned to this district. Voluntary assistance is rendered at the various centres by Ladies of the Town and such assistance is greatly appreciated.

The two Medical Officers who attend the Infant Welfare Centres are : - a. Dr. N.E.R. Archer of Budleigh Salterton and b. Dr. L.G. Anderson, your Medical Officer of Health. The Centres are held at the Devon County Council Clinic, Withycombe Village Road, Exmouth on Wednesday and Friday from 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. and Dr. Archer attends the Church Hall, Littleham every 2nd and 4th Monday from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

i. Exmouth Clinic.

No of sessions held	Total attendances by infants under 1 year of age	Total attendances by children over 1 year of age
104	3,354	1,307

ii Littleham Clinic.

No of sessions held	Total attendances by infants under 1 year of age	Total attendances by children over 1 year of age
24	343	213

Welfare foods are supplied at the Exmouth Infant Welfare Centre on Wednesday and Friday afternoons of each week and at the Church Hall, Littleham every Monday afternoon, and also at the W.V.S. Headquarters, 2 Bicton Street, on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 2 - 4.30 p.m.

MATERNITY.

There are six District Nurses in this district viz:-

Nurse Snaith	Nurse Usher	Nurse Crossby
Nurse Warne	Nurse Shaw	Nurse Weatherby

Who all reside at No. 11, Albion Hill, Exmouth ('Phone 2237). Each nurse is in possession of a motor car. All are fully trained in gas and air analgesia and three apparatuses are available for their use. Two oxygen resuscitation apparatuses are also held at the Nurses Home for use when required.

CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS.

When necessary, arrangements can be made for the admission of a premature baby and its mother to go to the nearest Maternity Unit, in this case the Exeter City Hospital, where there are 15 cots.

DENTAL CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

A well equiped dental surgery is provided at the Exmouth Clinic, Withycombe Village Road, Exmouth at which dental treatment can be given to Mothers and young children, every Friday and by appointment.

The following report has been kindly supplied by the Engineer and Surveyor, Mr. R.J.Humphreys :-

12. WATER SUPPLY.

The Exmouth Urban District Council Water Undertaking was taken over by the East Devon Water Board on the 1st October, 1964.

Source of Supply.

The town has two sources from which its supply is obtained, namely :-

- (1) The Catchment Area at Squabmoor which feeds into an impounding reservoir.
- (2) Three boreholes at Dotton in the Parish of Colaton Raleigh.

A bulk supply is made direct from Dotton to the St. Thomas Rural District Council's reservoirs at Stallcombe and Colaton Raleigh.

Steps are being taken to complete the duplication of the 12" diameter rising main from Dotton to Exmouth.

Quality.

Water has generally been very satisfactory in quality during the year and the last analysis after treatment is as follows :-

	<u>No. of coli-aerogenes organisms per 100 ml.</u>
W. 4968 <u>High Level Filters, Exmouth Reservoir</u>	NIL.
W. 4967 <u>Low Level Filters, Exmouth Reservoir</u>	NIL.
W. 4966 <u>Borehole at Dotton</u>	NIL.
W. 4969 <u>Bystock Reservoir</u>	NIL.

Quantity

The consumption continued at a high lever and steps to duplicate the rising main from Dotton are in hand.

Total number of properties connected to Main Supply and Number of connections made during 1964 - 8687 and 36 respectively.

DRAINING AND SEWERAGE.

During the year further progress on the major improvement works to the Withycombe Brook have been completed.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

The maintenance of public conveniences has been satisfactory throughout the year, but difficulties still exist in recruiting Attendants.

PUBLIC CLEANSING AND REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Refuse has continued to be disposed of at Withycombe Brick Pit under very satisfactory conditions.

SWIMMING POOL.

This remains as one of the Sea Front attractions where improvements are desirable but the heavy loss on its operation makes the problem a very difficult one to solve.

ANALYTICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF A SAMPLE OF DRINKING WATER.

(i) Sample of water from Catchment Reservoir, Squabmoor.

Characters.

Colour	Brown-green tint.
Turbidity	Clear
Taste	Natural
Odour	None
Suspended Matters	Unimportant

Bacteriological, after filtration and chlorination.Probable numbers per 100 ml.

Coliform bacilli	Nil
Bacterium coli (Type 1)	Nil

Analysis.

(Parts per Million)

Chlorine present as Chlorides	27.0
Nitrogen present as Nitrates	0
Nitrogen present as Nitrites	0
Phosphates	0
Sulphates	0
Free Carbon Dioxide	
Total Hardness equivalent to Calcium Carbonate	29.0
Temporary Hardness (annulled by boiling)	14.0
Permanent Hardness (not altered by boiling)	15.0
Saline Ammonia	0.006
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.106
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27° C	2.0
Oxygen absorbed immediately	
Lead	0
Copper	0
Zinc	0
Iron in solution	0
Iron in sedimentary form	0
Manganese	0
Total Solid Constituents	105.0
Organic Matter observed on igniting the Solid Constituents	trace
Hydrogen Ion Concentration equivalent to pH.	6.7

ANALYTICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF A SAMPLE OF DRINKING WATER.

(ii) Sample of water from No. 3 Borehole at Dotton.

Characters.

Colour	Colourless
Turbidity	Clear
Taste	Natural
Odour	None
Suspended Matters	None

BacteriaProbable numbers per 100 ml.

Coliform bacilli	Nil
Bacterium coli (Type 1)	Nil

Analysis

(Parts per million)

Chlorine present as Chlorides	24,0
Nitrogen present as Nitrates	0
Nitrogen present as Nitrites	4.0
Phosphates	slight trace
Sulphates	
Free Carbon Monoxide	
Total Hardness equivalent to Calcium Carbonate	167.0
Temporary Hardness (annulled by boiling)	136.0
Permanent Hardness (not altered by boiling)	31.0
Saline Ammonia	0
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.004
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C	0.05
Oxygen absorbed immediately	
Lead	0
Copper	0
Zinc	0
Iron in Solution	0
Iron in sedimentary form	0
Manganese	0
Total Solid Constituents	275.0
Organic Matter observed on igniting the solid Constituents	none
Hydrogen Ion Concentration equivalent to pH.	7.2

The following paragraphs have been kindly supplied by the Senior Public Health Inspector:-

18. SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

1. Drains repaired	7
2. Waste pipes repaired or renewed	1
3. Eaves gutters and rainwater pipes renewed or repaired	10
4. W.C.'s reconstructed or repaired	2
5. House roofs repaired	7
6. House yard paving repaired	3
7. House walls, floors and ceilings repaired	68
8. Other house repairs	40
9. Dustbins provided	4
10. Ventilated foodstores provided	2
11. Nuisances abated	26
12. Sinks provided	2
Total number of visits in connection with the above work	-
	195
Visits in connection with miscellaneous items (complaints, outworkers, interviews etc.)	-
	787
Number of complaints received	85
Number of informal notices served	59
Number of informal notices complied with	86

During the year a total of four Statutory Notices were served as follows :-

Section 9 Housing Act 1957. (Repair of unfit house at reasonable expense)	1
Section 15 Housing Act 1961. (Provision of additional facilities - House in Multiple Occupation)	1
Section 16 Housing Act 1961. (Provision of Fire Escape in House in Multiple Occupation)	1
Section 17 Public Health Act 1961. (Summary power to remedy stopped up drains).	1

Nuisances

Three drains were cleared of obstruction after informal action. In one further instance it was necessary to serve a Statutory Notice and carry out the work in default before the drain was cleared.

Two public sewers were referred to the Engineer & Surveyor for clearance.

Incorrect drainage causing a nuisance from a urinal in a place of public entertainment was remedied.

A fire was extinguished at a private tip at Mudbank.

Improved arrangements for the disposal of the effluent from a septic tank were made after complaints from a neighbour, in two instances.

Water Supply.

As a result of complaints about the unpleasant condition of a water supply to an estate comprising business and residential properties, samples revealed heavy contamination of the water (Exmouth Urban District Council's supply) to have occurred in the private supply pipe. With the aid of the Engineer and Surveyor's water inspectors (the incident occurred before water undertaking transferred to the East Devon Water Board) faults in the plumbing were isolated and corrected. The supply pipes were super-chlorinated and subsequent sampling revealed the water to be pure.

In addition to the previous paragraphs, visits were made to various premises as shown under the following different headings :-

19. DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.

Number

Disinfection of Premises	3
Visits made regarding disinfection and disinfestation	14

In five houses and one flat, an insecticidal spray was used for destroying fleas.

Wasp Nests. - The service this year for the destruction of wasp nests was required in five cases only.

20. ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

A complaint of bed bug infestation was recorded during the year. The house was sprayed with insecticide to eradicate the infestation.

21. CAMPING AND CARAVANING.

There are four sites within the urban district as listed below :-

(a) Sandy Bay Holiday Park.

Fields at Westdown Farm, Littleham, bearing Ordnance Survey numbers :- 189, 190, 197, 198, 200, 201, 203, 512, 514, 515, 516, 519, 520, 521, 524, 526, 531, 532, 534, 535, and 536. Area : 159.7 acres.

Licensed for 1,125 moveable dwellings which represents a density of seven caravans to the acre.

(b) Foxholes Hill.

Fields at Maer Farm and Foxholes Hill bearing the Ordnance Survey numbers :- 471, 475 and 497. Acre : 14.6 acres.

This site is due to be developed for housing in 1966 and many caravans have already been removed, there being 125 in August although the maximum number authorised by the licence is 216. This running down together with the closure of the camp shop and club has caused the site to appear less attractive, necessitating representations being made to the licencees as to the condition of the site on several occasions.

(c) Higher Orcombe.

Fields at Higher Orcombe bearing Ordnance Survey numbers :- 500, 502, 504, 506 and 507. Area 24.7 acres.

Licensed for 82 trailer caravans of a type approved by the Council which represents a density of three moveable dwellings to the acre.

(d) Orcombe Heights.

Fields at Orcombe Heights bearing Ordnance Survey numbers :- 499 and 503. Area : 22.3 acres.

Licensed for 50 tents or trailer caravans of a type approved by the Council, which represents a density of 2 moveable dwellings to the acre.

(e) Camping Census.

Again this year the department carried out a survey of all camping for the completion of forms for the Devon County Council Planning Authority. This was taken at the peak holiday period, i.e. August Bank Holiday Week.

(f) Camping at Unlicensed Sites.

(i) Prattshayes Farm - Apart from the Annual Camps of organised groups this site is the only camping site for tents in the district and as it is open for only the peak holiday weeks it does not come within the licensing provisions of the Public Health Act 1936. Consequently, by agreement with the Planning Authority the number of tents is restricted to 32, and it is evident that many campers have to pass on elsewhere in view of the lack of sites for tents. Conditions at this site were satisfactory.

(ii) Scattered Sites. - Camping or caravaning occurred at the following places :- Woodlands Farm, Glebe Farm, in Castle Lane, Dennesdene Farm, Symonds Farm, St. John's Farm, St. John's Road and Higher Halsdon Farm.

During the year 40 visits were made to the permanent holiday sites whilst 28 visits were made in connection with temporary camping.

22.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) General. - The food premises in the area include the following types :-

Butchers	17
Dairies and Milk Distributors	34
Fish Shops	5
Fried Fish Shops	8
Bakehouses	10
Bread and Cake Shops	9
Greengrocers	16
Grocers	54
Restaurants and Cafes	33
Hotels, Guest Houses and Nursing Homes	70
School Kitchens and Staff Canteens	14
Public Houses	22
Other Food Premises	20
	<u>312</u>

(b) Registered Premises - The number and type of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 are :-

The Preparation or manufacture of preserved food	30
The manufacture of ice cream	5
The sale of ice cream	148
The total number of dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959	20

(c) Unsound Food - Food condemned as unfit for human consumption consisted of :-

	Pounds	Ozs.	Tons	Cwts	Qtrs	Lbs	Ozs.
<u>Meat</u>							
Beef (decomposition)	20	0					
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>					
<u>Tinned Meats</u>							
Cooked Ham (Decomposition)	610	9					
Corned Beef "	42	12					
Ox Tongues "	24	0					
Jellied Veal "	18	0					
Stewed Steak "	10	15					
Luncheon Meat "	27	0					
Chopped Ham and Pork "	136	0					
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>					
			7	3	1	4	
<u>Other Foods</u>							
Bacon (Decomposition)	26	0					
Turkey "	14	15					
Kippers "	14	0					
Ray Wings "	21	0					
Dog Fish "	28	0					
Prawns "	7	0					
Celery (Rotted)	60	0					
Shelled (Moths and Walnuts Moth Larvae)	80	0					
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>					
			2	0	26	15	
<u>Tins of Food (Assorted)</u>							
650 (tins punctured blown or leaking)	775	7					
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>					
Total	=		17	0	11	10	

All condemned food is disposed of by burying at the Council's Refuse Tip.

(d) Food Retailers.

During the course of the year 87 visits were made to butchers shops, fish shops, fried fish shops, bread and cake shops, greengrocers and grocers hops.

The standard in the above type of food premises has remained good. During the routine visits to grocers' premises enquiry has been made into the measures adopted by the grocers in regard to the proper rotation of stock with the object of preventing the sale of stale goods.

(e) Bakehouses.

All ten bakehouses in the district are operated by mechanical power and of these 9 are classed as factories since more than one person is employed in them. There was no cause for unsatisfactory comment in regard to these premises. 6 visits were made to bakehouses.

(f) Catering Establishments.

The general standard of conditions in these premises continues to be satisfactory. 52 visits were made to these premises.

(g) Hotel, Guest Houses and Nursing Homes.

As a result of routine visits it was considered that the proprietors and staff of these establishments are observing the requirements to maintain food hygiene in a satisfactory state.

(h) Public Houses.

As a result of inspections satisfactory circumstances were found at these establishments. 15 visits were made to these premises.

(i) Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960.

It will be noted that these Regulations apply to all the above mentioned types of food premises and their requirements were checked with the conditions existing at the premises during routine visits. In conjunction with this, work necessary to make the premises and/or equipment comply with the Food Regulations has been carried out at :-

2 bakehouses	1 canteen
1 bread and cake shop	3 fried fish shops
3 butchers	2 greengrocers
4 cafes	3 Hotels, Guest Houses
2 grocers	and Nursing Homes.

(j) Milk Supply.

It was necessary for work to be required at one dairy to make it comply with the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959. Early in the year the Devon County Council Sampling Officer informed us that the result of a sample of milk from a vending machine was positive for Brucella Abortus and that the vendor was located in this district. The vendor obtained his supplies of milk from 10 farms. As a result it was necessary to take 29 samples of milk to cover all members of the various dairy herds. The samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Exeter. In due course the results were received and all were reported as negative for Brucella Abortus.

(k) Ice Cream.

Twenty-nine samples of ice cream were taken during the year for bacteriological examination at the Public Health Laboratory, and the results were as follows :-

GRADE I 6%
GRADE II 10%

GRADE III 7%
GRADE IV 14%

Below is given a tabulated statement of the results of samples since 1957 :-

GRADE	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
I %	22 61.1	33 78.8	36 88.0	42 91.0	41 79.0	36 74.0	44 68.0	20 69.0
II %	10 27.8	5 11.9	4 10.0	3 7.0	8 15.0	8 16.0	1 2.0	3 10.0
III %	4 11.1	2 4.7	1 2.0	-	1 2.0	2 4.0	1 2.0	2 7.0
IV %	-	2 4.7	-	1 2.0	2 4.0	3 6.0	-	4 14.0

Again trouble was experienced from the cleaning of servers in the case of loose ice cream and also from the use of a soft ice cream machine as illustrated by the unsatisfactory grade four results. Subsequent samples were satisfactory.

Good relations have again been maintained in all cases and copies of the Laboratory Reports as in previous years have been supplied to the people concerned. Although there are five premises registered for manufacture of ice cream, at only one of these premises was ice cream actually made. Whilst 148 premises are registered for the sale of ice cream, at only 107 of these premises was ice cream sold.

(l) Shellfish

Visits were made at regular intervals to the Shellfish Factory at the Docks occupied by Messrs Exe Shellfish Limited. During the year samples of their shellfish products were submitted for bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory. All were found to be satisfactory.

(m) The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations 1963).

These regulations came into force on 1st January 1964 and require that all bulked liquid egg (or whole frozen egg) used for foods for human consumption shall be pasteurised before it can be imported into the country.

The Regulations are enforceable by each local authority.

1. There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the district.
2. Two samples were submitted to Alpha-Amylase Test. Both samples passed the test.
3. From enquiries made at the time of sampling it was found that only four bakehouses in this area were supplied with "Lion-Brand" frozen egg from plants under the control of the Egg Marketing Board.

Any samples taken are required to be placed in an insulated container and transported to the testing laboratory with the least possible delay. Since the nearest laboratory with the necessary facilities is at Taunton, Somerset, it will be seen that sampling is not such a straightforward procedure as would be the case if facilities for the test were available at the Public Health Laboratory, Exeter.

23. PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949.General.

This year the number of complaints received showed an increase of approximately one third more than last year, there being 96 complaints this year compared with 71 last. Eight of these concerned mice. As a result of investigating these complaints 94 properties were found to be infested.

The Rodent Operator has carried out 107 treatments and as eight of these were in business premises the cost of these latter treatments were recovered from the owners concerned.

RODENT CONTROL.Sewers.

The Annual Test Baiting of 10% of the Council's Sewer system was carried out in July. Unfortunately this revealed some small local infestations in scattered areas, and after six months a maintenance treatment will be necessary.

Council Property.

The following properties of the Council were treated in the course of the year :-

Sea Wall, Esplanade.

Withycombe Brook (Co-operative Store
to Chetah's Shop).

Manchester Road,
Council Nursery Gardens, Moorfield Road.

Withycombe Brickworks Site.

Pound Lane Allotments,
Withycombe Refuse Tip.

Council Depot

Gardens, rear of 150 Salterton Road,
Hamilton Lane Allotments.

133 Visits were made regarding Rodent Control.

24. FACTORIES ACT 1961. 1. Inspections for purposes of provision as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	6	-	-
2. Factories not included in 1 in which Sec. 7 is enforced by Local Authorities.	97	50	1	-
3. Other premises in which Sec 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (Excluding Outworkers' premises).	4	4	-	-
TOTAL	107	60	1	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	
	Found Remedied		Referred			
	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector				
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-	
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-	
Unreasonable Temperature	-	-	-	-	-	
Inadequate Ventilation	-	-	-	-	-	
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-	
Sanitary Conveniences:-						
a. Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-	
b. Unsuitable or defective	8	9	-	-	-	
c. Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-	
Other offences against the Act not including offences relating to outwork.	14	-	14	-	-	
TOTAL	22	9	14	-	-	

During the year four building sites were visited and found to have satisfactory sanitation.

3. OUTWORK. (Sections 133 and 134).

Below is given a table of the number of outworkers employed by factories in the district :-

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

Outwork.

Nature of Work.	Section 133			Section 134.	
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failing to supply Lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices Served.
Wearing apparel					
Making Etc.					
Cleaning					
Washing					
Brass & Brass articles	7	-	-	-	-
Making of Baskets	40	-	-	-	-
Total	55	-	-	-	-

Where work is given out from a factory and done in a private dwelling house it is termed "homework" and the person who does the work is an "outworker". This control applies to certain classes of work as specified by regulations made by the Secretary of State. The occupier of the factory concerned with outworkers is required to keep a list of all outworkers and send a copy of the list to the Local Authority during the months of February and August each year.

25. HOUSING.

Supervisory visits were made to see that the necessary works of repair were being carried out at unfit houses. As a result of this the Council revoked 4 Closing Orders and 1 Undertaking. During the year four unfit houses were demolished. Informal action by the department resulted in a further 19 houses being repaired to a satisfactory standard.

26. OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963.

This Act was brought into force during 1964 with various dates of commencement for different sections of the Act. This new Act is designed to make provisions for the health, safety and welfare of persons employed to work in offices, shops or railway premises. It is similar in scope to the Factories Act 1961, which dealt with conditions for factory employees and is on comparable lines to it.

This is the first time that any provision has been made for the health and care of office workers. The only people previously considered have been factory workers and to a much lesser extent, shop workers under the Shops Act 1950.

The Minister of Labour is responsible for seeing that the Act is enforced, and to help him secure the uniform discharge of these duties, he has, under Section 57 of the Act, appointed Deputy Superintending Inspector of Factories to act as officers to advise him and local authorities on the enforcement of the various provisions of the Act, and for that purpose the country has been divided into 13 regions each supervised by one of these Factory Inspectors.

So far, for the guidance of Local Authorities, the Minister has issued 13 circulars, 4 orders and two sets of Regulations, (The Sanitary Conveniences Regulations 1964 and the Washing Facilities Regulations 1964) together with an Accident Classification Code. These documents give a fairly detailed guide as to what is required to be observed at the various premises and the type of machinery etc., that requires attention together with suggestions for guarding of various types.

The scope of the act is concerned with cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation, lighting, sanitary conveniences, washing facilities, drinking water, sitting facilities floors, passages, stairs, guarding of machinery and first aid requirements. The Fire Authority will deal with the requirements relating to fire precautions.

Towards the latter part of the year the actual work of inspecting premises in respect of which notification had been received was commenced and a total of 42 premises received a detailed general inspection as follows :-

12 Offices, 21 Retail Shops, 9 Catering Establishments.

During the last quarter of the year, 2 accidents were reported to the Local Authority in accordance with Section 48 of the Act. These were of a minor nature and no further action was required.

Section 48 requires the occupier of any premises to notify the appropriate authority of any accident which occurs to any person employed to work in the premises and which causes loss of life or disables any person from working for more than three days. The accidents are to be notified on a special form O.S.R.2. The purpose of notifications is to help enforcing authorities to detect breaches of the Act, and to enable them to advise occupiers on measures to prevent the recurrence of similar accidents. It will also enable the Ministry of Labour to collect statistical information in order to study different types of accident and to assess the need for preventive measures.

It is evident from the inspections made so far, that most of the food slicing, food mixing and potato chipping machines are not adequately guarded and require suitable provision to be made for this purpose.

EXMOUTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
HOUSING and WELFARE OFFICER'S REPORT

INTRODUCTION

This annual report attempts briefly to cover the more important aspects of management and has been prepared especially for those more recently elected members of the Council.

Exmouth, as an Urban District, is required by statute to provide accommodation to rent according to the needs of the area and is, therefore, known as a Housing Authority.

Local Housing Authorities are required not only to provide the necessary different types of accommodation but also to ensure by efficient methods of management they are fully used for the purpose for which they are intended and properly cared for and maintained, thereby retaining their value both for the landlord and tenant.

THE HOUSING LIST

In Exmouth in order to assess the need for housing accommodation a register of applicants is maintained. The applications being divided into family groups so that figures for size and type of accommodation required can easily be obtained. The register also provides information regarding those families who are in need of Council houses and those who are already adequately housed.

Many in this group are, however, paying rents in excess of their means, possibly living in accommodation not far short of being condemned, or beyond the occupants ability to care for in view of their age.

In order to keep the register of applicants for housing accommodation up to date each family is asked to renew their application annually and it is surprising and disturbing to note at least 100 applications lapse each year, mainly those of young families.

Details are given in Appendix 'A' to this Report.

SELECTION OF TENANTS

This is the responsibility of the Housing Sub-Committee and basically they are required to approve applications from those in the Inadequately Housed Group once their turn is reached in its date order.

The number of applications approved and included on the Priority List is governed by the possible number of vacancies which are likely to occur in a given year plus any new houses which may have been built.

Appendix 'A' shows in 1964 the number of Inadequately Housed applicants was in fact slightly reduced in spite of the lack of new accommodation and this reinforces the suggestion that over a period of years only a small number of new dwellings are required annually in order to meet the demand.

The vital issue to families awaiting rehousing is how long they have to wait. This for a family taking its normal turn on the Housing List is now nearly three years and over three years for the aged. Recently when it has been found possible to offer some of our most elderly

SELECTION OF TENANTS cont'd.

residents a home they are already in hospital or so infirm that they can no longer live alone.

The Housing Sub-Committee's problem is not however in the approving of applications but in deciding those they are unable to approve from the many special applications for priority they consider at every meeting.

Cases of extreme hardship are not uncommon. Families under the threat of eviction, families divided by legal separation or divorce, recommendations for early rehousing for medical reasons are some of the reasons given in support of applications for priority in rehousing. During 1964 out of the total of 46 granted Council accommodation 13 came in this special category.

DEMAND FOR FUTURE ACCOMMODATION

It has already been suggested that the population of Exmouth is likely to increase by 50% in the next twenty years, the world wide population explosion during the next forty years has been much publicised on television and in the press, all of which indicates a continued demand for accommodation. In particular there will be a continued rise in the population under 35 and those over 65 and it is to the latter group special reference is made in the following paragraph.

The national average of those in this age group is 12%, but Exmouth's figure is 22.5% and this is reflected in the number in this age group on the Housing List (Appendix 'A') and to be added to this are the existing Council house tenants of similar age who have asked for transfer to smaller accommodation.

Mention has already been made of the waiting period prior to rehousing and it is only a steady development of the St. John's Road Estate which will answer the problem.

Looking further ahead, in view of the fact that bungalows for the elderly will only constitute between a third and a quarter of the whole Estate and the majority are in the first phase, it is possible that some bungalows will be required on the Mudbank land before the St. John's Road Estate is completed.

TRANSFERS AND EXCHANGES

Lists are kept of various tenants requiring transfer to alternative accommodation and such moves are approved from time to time according to whether or not a move would be reasonable.

Typical examples are where a move is desirable for health reasons, a move from a house to one with a garage, or where a family need larger or smaller accommodation. The latter requests are quite numerous, but unfortunately at present there are no bungalows available to satisfy the demand.

Although a few exchanges take place each year between Exmouth Council tenants they more often occur with tenants of other local authorities. Satisfactory references are required as well as making certain that the proposed new tenant has an offer of employment in Exmouth.

REPAIRS, MAINTENANCE AND MODERNISATION

This subject would justify a report to itself so that in the space available mention will only be made of some of the basic facts.

The Council's building maintenance staff carry out not only repairs and maintenance to Council houses but also to all Council owned property including the building of new premises such as cafes, sports pavilions and shelters.

The estimated expenditure on Council houses for the financial year 1964/1965 is £20,000, the principal items being outside painting of 200 to 230 houses a year and the improvement and modernisation of pre-war properties.

Ministry approval for this latter scheme involving 137 dwellings was given in 1960 and so far work on 40 houses has been completed. The properties concerned were all built in 1926/27 and the comprehensive scheme of modernisation and repair brings the properties completely up to date.

Tenants voluntarily move to temporary accommodation whilst their houses are being modernised. Rents are increased by approximately 5/6d per week.

No pressure is put on the tenants to have their houses improved, but such is the interest shown in the scheme by the tenants that there is a waiting list which will take over two years to clear.

RENT ARREARS

If there is an unhappy side to the work of housing management it would probably come under this heading.

In spite of the comparatively low rents and the rebate system there is no escape from the weekly problem of examining the individual cases of arrears and deciding on what course of action is necessary.

For new cases a letter is sometimes all that is required. In more persistent cases a series of letters is necessary and this is often followed by one or more special visits to see the tenant or his wife.

If arrears still persist the Council bailiff is asked to call and in the case of some tenants he has done so on as many as six occasions.

Finally if all efforts fail it is sometimes necessary to give the tenant Notice to Quit. Fortunately, this might only happen once over a period of years and then only after the various welfare services have been asked to help.

Even so it is encouraging to report that none of the Council's pensioner tenants owe any rent whatever.

COUNTY SERVICES

Close liaison is maintained with the Health, Welfare and Children's Departments over the problems of both tenants and applicants.

Rehabilitation of problem families is necessary from time to time when the Council might fumigate, repair and redecorate a house whilst the Health Visitors tackle the difficult problem of improving house-keeping standards, cleanliness and the payment of debts. A family might be under

supervision for ten years or more, and the number of completely successful cases is small although some progress is made with most families.

Day to day contact with the Welfare Department is mainly over the care of elderly Council tenants who are to be admitted to County homes for a holiday or as permanent residents and regarding accommodation for evicted families. Future legislation is likely to be of considerable assistance in reducing these cases, relieving the pressure on County as well as on Council accommodation. The County Welfare Department have also assisted in the rehabilitation of elderly tenants as well as making arrangements for them to stay at a County Home whilst their accommodation was being redecorated.

THE WARDENS SERVICE

More elderly people are seeking independence by having "a place of their own", but in doing so many suffer from loneliness and a feeling of insecurity and often live at great personal risk because of their frailty.

The specially designed bungalows in some measure help to offset this risk but to provide a complete answer as possible to the problem the Wardens service was introduced.

The County Welfare Officer suggested that the Council might adopt this idea and it was first applied to the 82 bungalows on the Burnside Estate. Being twice the size of any similar project in Devon it presented many new problems but because of its size it has been an unqualified success.

The employment of two Wardens has enabled the Council to provide a twenty-four hour service and the call bell system has provided an answer to the feeling of insecurity. Apart from the help the Wardens give they also co-operate with the doctors, district nurses, health visitors, and the home help and meals on wheels services.

The Community Centre provided quite a challenge firstly because the organizing of social activities and the fostering of a community spirit in such a setting was something new and its success or otherwise would form a pattern for similar projects in Exmouth.

A number of Community Centres in Devon and Somerset had already been visited and it appeared the Common Rooms were only used for organised activities so that a fairly full programme of entertainment had to be arranged and to provide additional interest one of the smaller rooms was comfortably furnished for television only.

The Centre is open all day and every day. The residents have a flourishing social club and have whist, bingo and bridge sessions three nights a week, the normal attendance excepting for bridge being between 30 and 40. The money raised is spent on coach trips during the summer and a Christmas party.

The W.V.S. have use of the Centre on Wednesdays and have a Darby and Joan Club membership of 60 including 22 members not resident on the Estate. The normal attendance is about 45 and activities provided include slide and film shows, whist, bingo, community singing and a short service once a month conducted by the Vicar of Withycombe.

Other activities include afternoon needlework and knitting classes supervised by the Wardens, occasional coffee mornings, sales of work and next May the W.V.S. are taking a party of 49 club members to Scarborough for a week's holiday.

Cont'd...

An almost identical Centre is to be constructed on the Salterton Road Estate in 1965 with two wardens caring for the tenants of 84 flats.

Two flats for wardens are also being constructed on the St. John's Road Estate and County approval has been given for Wardens service when the Mudbank Estate land is developed.

CO-ORDINATION

It is very easy for one welfare department or voluntary organization to overlap another when dealing with a problem family. This is bad both for the family and for the organizations attempting to help them, so that in order to co-ordinate the service for individual families the Chief Education Officer was appointed to arrange ad hoc meetings when the organizations concerned can discuss the way in which a particular family can best be helped. These meetings are helpful in not only limiting the number of visitors but also in deciding the help required, so often the essence of a problem is lack of housing accommodation.

INTERMEDIATE ACCOMMODATION

The Council have purchased by arrangement with the Devon County Council Welfare Department an old house in good order but with the minimum of facilities. At present it is occupied by an elderly lady, but when she is rehoused it is intended to use it as temporary accommodation for evicted families or those not suitable for Council accommodation without some form of rehabilitation.

MEALS ON WHEELS SERVICE

There has over many years been close co-operation between the Council, the County Council and the W.V.S., the Council sharing with the County any financial loss incurred over and above the 1/6d charged for each meal.

The W.V.S. at present cook and deliver 45 meals twice a week. Their present kitchen facilities are restricted and unsatisfactory and new premises are being provided for them as part of Salterton Road Estate Community Centre the Council making a contribution towards the cost of construction and equipping.

LANDON HOUSE

This report would not be complete without reference to Landon House the Day Centre for the elderly opened in New Street and sponsored by the Exmouth Old People's Welfare Committee.

The Council and Devon County Council each contributed a sixth of the cost and the Committee have raised the balance from voluntary subscriptions. The building alterations and furnishings have all been paid for and expenditure has exceeded four and a half thousand pounds.

The site almost in the Town Centre has undoubtedly contributed to the success of the scheme, but it would have been impossible without the tremendous amount of work not only by the members of the Committee but also by the many helpers who attend daily at the Centre.

CONCLUSION

Criticism of the selection of tenants and other aspects of management are inevitable when the demand for accommodation exceeds the supply, but the majority of families are prepared to wait their turn to be considered when the problems involved have been fully explained to them.

Probably the greatest advance in the last ten years has been in welfare and housing for the elderly.

Although Exmouth is not a Welfare Authority this subject covers a vast field of services and excellent contact has been made with all those organizations who in any way can or have been of assistance to both applicants and tenants. In addition it has been possible to help many individuals and families without reference elsewhere.

The majority of housing authorities still build flats for the elderly, but, there is, at least in Exmouth, a definite preference for bungalows and it is very pleasing to know of the pleasure they give their occupants, especially when this is backed by the Wardens Service.

Undoubtedly, Exmouth Council's attitude towards specialised accommodation for the elderly makes it one if not the most progressive Authority in the County in this field.

E. R. Ashton,
Housing and Welfare Officer.

APPENDIX A

ANALYSIS OF THE HOUSING NEED

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

	3 Bedroomed	2 Bedroomed	1 Bedroomed	TOTAL	Grand total of Housing applicants Including A/H
December 1964	126	33	87	246	455
December 1963	129	34	88	251	477
December 1962	101	28	77	206	411
March 1962	81	39	82	202	384
March 1961	114	43	102	259	406
March 1960	77	33	62	172	342
December 1958	73	32	52	157	316
December 1957	79	34	35	148	303
December 1956	75	36	27	138	250

ACCOMMODATION PROVIDED

	3 Bedroomed	2 Bedroomed	1 Bedrcomed	TOTAL
December 1964	32	3	11	46
December 1963	25	7	8	40
December 1962	48	3	49	100 *
March 1962	50	5	30	85 *
March 1961	28	2	31	61 *
March 1960	24	6	7	37
December 1958	41	8	8	57
December 1957	34	5	9	48
December 1956	42	-	8	50

* Including New Buildings

NEW APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

1964	168	Number considered to be in need of re-housing	107
1963	200		133
1962	196		127
1961	190		116
1960	197		146
1959	210		115
1958	196		122
1957	198		118
1956	225		165
1955	213		150

